

Approved For Release 2006/11/13 : CIA-RDP79R00904A000500010071-0

TS#141943

8 June 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: NIE 11-2-59: The Soviet Atomic Energy Program

1. A Board panel (Barnes, Bundy and Montague) has reviewed the successive drafts of NIE 11-2-59 and recommends that you support the estimate as now submitted to the IB by JAEIC.

2. Section VIII, Possible Soviet Allocations of Fissionable Materials to Weapons Stockpiles, 1959-1962 (pp. 149-169) was prepared by Mr. Bundy and supersedes the Supplement to NIE 11-2-58 approved on 30 September 1958. Such a section is required because estimates of kilograms of fissionable materials (as in paras 9 and 11) can carry no comprehension of the threat in weapons terms. Many caveats identify the section as merely illustrative. The Army-Navy footnote is an objection to the inclusion of such a section, but is for the record only. They have accepted the IB decision made in the case of the Supplement and will not attempt to prevent the inclusion of Section VIII.

FOR THE BOARD OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES:

SHERMAN KENT
Assistant Director
National Estimates